

Message Text

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01306 111550Z

44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

USSS-00 NSAE-00 /026 W

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P R 111103Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0627

INFO AMCONSUL STUTTGART

S E C R E T TRIPOLI 1306

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR

SUBJECT: SAFETY OF AMERICAN CITIZENS: U.S. POLICY

REF: STATE 201367

1. SEEMS TO ME OBVIOUS THAT SAFETY OF AMCITS DEPENDS
INVERSELY ON EXTENT OF ARAB LOSSES AND US SUPPORT OF ISRAEL.
THIS FIRST MIGHT BE SUFFICIENT TO ENDANGER AMERICANS HERE,
THE SECOND TO GUARANTEE IT.

2. OUR INFLUENCE ON THE FIRST FACTOR MAY BE LIMITED
BUT THE ARABS WILL NOT BELIEVE WE COULD NOT HAVE
PREVENTED AN ARAB DISASTER, IF IT COMES TO THAT. THE
SECOND FACTOR IS UNDER OUR CONTROL IF WE HAVE THE QBW.

3. RECOGNIZE THERE ARE OTHER, GLOBAL CONSIDERATIONS,
BUT IF ASKED ABOUT SECURITY OF AMCITS AND WHAT
ELSE COULD BE DONE ABOUT THE POTENTIAL DANGER TO THEM,
THE HONEST ANSWER IS TO SHAPE OUR M.E. POLICY SO
AS TO TAKE IN THESE CONCERNS FULLY. IN THEMSELVES,
AND APART FROM OTHER CONSIDERATIONS, THEY INDICATE
WE SHOULD PRESS FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE IN PLACE
AND NOT ON THE LINES OF OCT 5 FOR INSTANCE.

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PAGE 02 TRIPOL 01306 111550Z

4. WOULD ALSO POINT OUT THAT PERHAPS MORE SPECIFIC ATTENTION
SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SPECIFIC SITUATION IN EACH COUNTRY. IN LIBYA,
TO REPEAT, THERE IS NO SPECIFIC IMMEDIATE THREAT TO
SECURITY OF AMERICANS, BUT THE POTENTIAL IS THERE

BECAUSE OF THE ABOVE TWO FACTORS. AMONG THINGS DEPT
MIGHT USEFULLY DO IN E AND E PLANNING FOR LIBYA, IF NOT
ALREADY DONE, IS TO CHECK ON THE STATUS OF OIL
COMPANIES' CONTINGENCY CONTRACTS FOR AIRLIFTING OUT
THEIR EXPATRIATE PERSONNEL INCLUDING AMERICANS NOW IF
NECESSARY. AS STATED IN THE TRIPOLI PLAN,
MOBIL IS THE
CONTRACTING AGENCY.
JEIF

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